

THE GENERAL PLAN PROCESS

for Point Sur State Historic Park began in November of 2001 and is scheduled for completion in February of 2003.

The comprehensive planning effort may be broken down into five basic stages:

- Data Gathering
- Public & Community Input
- Draft Plan Preparation
- Public & Agency Review
- Final Plan Approval



Point Sur State Historic Park GENERAL PLAN NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

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WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?

It is the primary management document for a unit of the State Park System. The plan provides a purpose and vision, long-term goals and guidelines, and defines a broad framework for a park's development, ongoing management, public use, and future direction.

FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Date: Thursday, January 24, 2002

Location: Big Sur Station Conference Rm.
Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park

SECOND PUBLIC MEETING

TBA SPRING 2002

Please contact us at the address below with questions, comments, or to join our mailing list:

Attn: Point Sur SHP General Plan Team
Central Service Center
California State Parks
21 Lower Ragsdale Drive
Monterey, CA 93940

Phone: 831.657.6300
Fax: 831.649.7137

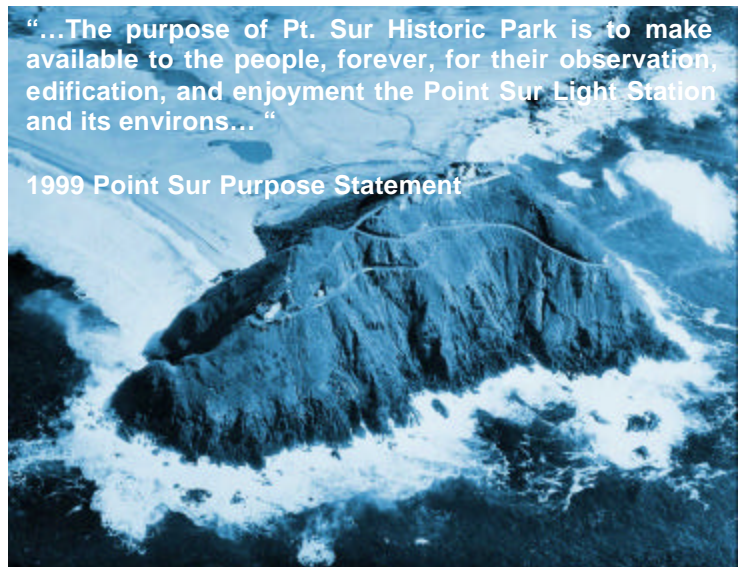
PtSurGenPlan@parks.ca.gov



The dramatic sight of the Point Sur Light Station atop a massive rock at the ocean's edge has long been a visual beacon for residents and travelers in Big Sur. Over 5,000 park visitors each year join a guided tour up the steep road to the promontory. From there they are afforded spectacular views north and south along Central California's rugged Big Sur coastline.

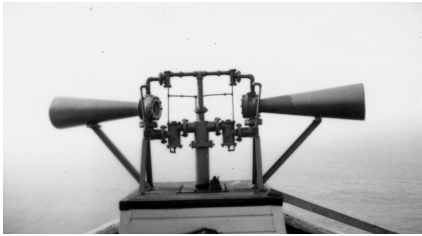
"...The purpose of Pt. Sur Historic Park is to make available to the people, forever, for their observation, edification, and enjoyment the Point Sur Light Station and its environs..."

1999 Point Sur Purpose Statement



Developing a General Plan

for Point Sur State Historic Park became a priority when California State Parks acquired the adjacent decommissioned Point Sur Naval Facility in 2000. Additionally, the Light Station has planning concerns to be addressed before much-needed restoration and preservation work can proceed.



Beyond its remarkable scenic value, Pt. Sur State Historic Park also serves to protect its unique cultural heritage and natural resources.



Constructed in 1889, the Point Sur Lighthouse is one of the few light stations still in operation along the West Coast. Perhaps more easily overlooked by visitors intent on a tour of historic buildings, the rocky cliffs and sandy beaches of this park comprise sensitive natural habitats that harbor federally protected plant and animal species.

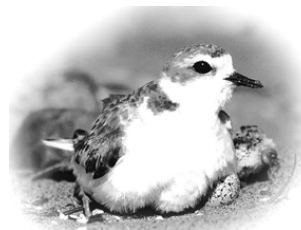
The adjacent land and structures of the former Pt. Sur Naval Facility (NAVFAC) have their own military and Cold War-era history. Established in 1957, the facility was once part of a worldwide network of defensive listening stations that tracked the movement of Soviet submarines. Now this facility provides not only operational and logistical support for the light station, but for the Big Sur community in general.



Former Naval Facility view from promontory



Aerial View of Point Sur State Historic Park



Western Snowy Plover



Monterey Indian Paintbrush

Although Point Sur Light Station was acquired for its historic resources the State Historic Park also contains significant natural resources, including beach, coastal dune, coastal sage scrub and even tide pool habitats. These environments harbor many special status plant and animal species including snowy plovers, Peregrine falcons, and recently, elephant seals.

